

PURPOSE

Children First Foundation serves families experiencing exceptional difficulty in the transfer of their children for the purpose of overnight parenting time or that require supervised parenting time. These difficulties often result in exposing the children to adult conflicts.

Requirements:

Parents must be referred by court order (St. Clair Co., IL) and must separately attend an Orientation Intake Interview to receive services. Parents must agree to follow the outlined program rules. This interview will be required again if the parties are inactive in the program for six months or longer.



Family Center
located at:
Children First Admin Office
1909 Dublin Blvd, Suite B
Belleville, IL 62221

Phone: (618) 235-6192
Fax: (618) 235-4186

Made possible by:

St. Clair County Board

**Twentieth Judicial Circuit
Family Violence Coordinating
Council**

**Circuit Court Judges
Twentieth Judicial Circuit
St. Clair County, IL**

**Administered by
Children First Foundation
www.children1stfoundation.org**



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**Children First
Foundation**

**St. Clair County
Family Center**
1909 Dublin Blvd, Suite B
Belleville, IL 62221



**Serving:
St. Clair County, IL**

**Scheduling:
(618) 235-6192**

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The Family Exchange Center provides designated parking, separate entrances and separate rooms for parents to exchange their child(ren). A one-hour Orientation Intake Interview is required separately of each parent, before enrollment is official and services can begin. At the orientation, each parent is assigned a specific arrival and departure time. Availability of slots and parent convenience are both considered in scheduling.

To schedule your Orientation Intake Interview, please call our administrative office at [618-235-6192](tel:618-235-6192).

If problems develop that will affect your scheduled child exchanges, staff can be reached during the program's regular operating hours at:

[\(618\) 235-6192](tel:618-235-6192)

Supervised Parenting Time

M/W/F 5:30 PM & 6:30 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM—8:00PM

Supervised Exchange

W/F/S 5:00 PM-8:00PM

(Additional Hours Available, during Supervised Parenting)

What is Supervised Exchange

Supervised Exchanges are conducted by Children First Foundation staff to ensure that no contact occurs between parents during the child exchange. Program rules and regulations for Supervised Exchanges are explained during Parent Orientations. Supervised Exchanges are documented, and content is available only by subpoena or by a judge's request.

The parent receiving the child for Supervised Exchanges will be required to arrive fifteen minutes early and leave with the child fifteen minutes after the delivering parent departs. This is referred to as the "15 Minute Rule". The safe exchange of children affects many domains of the court. Issues of child safety, development, and positive family relationships will only occur with a unified approach in the community.

Children First Foundation was created based on a fundamental understanding and respect for the needs and rights of children and parents to interact with each other in an appropriate and sensitive environment, and in consideration for the needs of the courts.

What is "Supervised Parenting Time?"

Supervised Parenting Time is also regulated by Children First Foundations staff to ensure that no contact occurs between parents. The major difference between Overnight Parenting Time and Supervised Parenting Time is that **the receiving parent is *not* allowed to leave CFF with the child.** The visit takes place at Children First Foundation.

A Supervised Parenting Room is provided where receiving parents and their child can spend family time together. The room is decorated to closely resemble a room in a home. The interactions between the parent and child are observed by a Case Supervisor who is listening and watching through a one-way window while recording notes into a database. Supervised Parenting Time documentation is available by subpoena or at a judge's request.

